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Your Reference: HL74402/ASG/par
Application No: GB 0004282.0

16 January 2001

Dear Sirs

Patents Act 1977: Search Report under Section 17(6)

I enclose two copies of my search reports relating to claims 2,3,4,5,6,7 and a copy of the citations.

These searches are in response to the further 6 Patents Forms 9/77 filed with your letter of 14 December 2000.

Yours faithfully

Peter Mason
Examiner

[†]Use of E-mail: Please note that e-mail should be used for correspondence only.



Application No: GB 0004282.0
Claims searched: 2

Examiner: Peter Mason
Date of search: 15 January 2001

Patents Act 1977
Further Search Report under Section 17

Databases searched:

UK Patent Office collections, including GB, EP, WO & US patent specifications, in:
UK Cl (Ed.S): E1F: FLA, FAC, FJR
Int Cl (Ed.7): E21B:
Other: Online: JAPIO, EPODOC, WPI

Documents considered to be relevant:

Category	Identity of document and relevant passage	Relevant to claims
A, E	GB2346632 A PETROLINE (See page 3, line 14-20 and fig. 1)	2
X, E	GB2344606 A SHELL (See 245 fig.2 for example)	2

X	Document indicating lack of novelty or inventive step	A	Document indicating technological background and/or state of the art.
Y	Document indicating lack of inventive step if combined with one or more other documents of same category.	P	Document published on or after the declared priority date but before the filing date of this invention.
&	Member of the same patent family	E	Patent document published on or after, but with priority date earlier than, the filing date of this application.



Application No: GB 0004282.0
Claims searched: 3

Examiner: Peter Mason
Date of search: 15 January 2001

Patents Act 1977
Further Search Report under Section 17

Databases searched:

UK Patent Office collections, including GB, EP, WO & US patent specifications, in:

UK CI (Ed.S): E1F: FLA, FAC, FJR

Int CI (Ed.7): E21B:

Other: Online: JAPIO, EPODOC, WPI

Documents considered to be relevant:

Category	Identity of document and relevant passage	Relevant to claims
A, E	GB2346632 A PETROLINE (See fig. 1)	3
X,E	GB2344606 A SHELL (See claims 1 and 3 and fig. 2 for example)	3

X	Document indicating lack of novelty or inventive step	A	Document indicating technological background and/or state of the art.
Y	Document indicating lack of inventive step if combined with one or more other documents of same category.	P	Document published on or after the declared priority date but before the filing date of this invention.
&	Member of the same patent family	E	Patent document published on or after, but with priority date earlier than, the filing date of this application.



Application No: GB 0004282.0
Claims searched: 4

Examiner: Peter Mason
Date of search: 15 January 2001

Patents Act 1977
Further Search Report under Section 17

Databases searched:

UK Patent Office collections, including GB, EP, WO & US patent specifications, in:

UK Cl (Ed.S): E1F: FLA, FAC, FJR

Int Cl (Ed.7): E21B:

Other: Online: JAPIO, EPODOC, WPI

Documents considered to be relevant:

Category	Identity of document and relevant passage		Relevant to claims
X,E	GB2344606 A	SHELL (See fig. 5 for example)	4
X	WO99/06670	SHELL (See fig. 4 for example)	4
X,P	WO99/35368	SHELL (See page 6 lines 30-34 and fig.1)	4
X	WO98/00626	SHELL (See page 6, lines 15-21 and fig.1)	4

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&	Member of the same patent family	E	Patent document published on or after, but with priority date earlier than, the filing date of this application.



Application No: GB 0004282.0
Claims searched: 5

Examiner: Peter Mason
Date of search: 15 January 2001

Patents Act 1977
Further Search Report under Section 17

Databases searched:

UK Patent Office collections, including GB, EP, WO & US patent specifications, in:
UK Cl (Ed.S): E1F: FLA, FAC, FJR
Int Cl (Ed.7): E21B:
Other: Online: JAPIO, EPODOC, WPI

Documents considered to be relevant:

Category	Identity of document and relevant passage	Relevant to claims
X,E	GB2344606 A SHELL (See page 29, line 31 - page 30, line 3, page 40, line 31- page 41 line 3, and fig 9)	5

X	Document indicating lack of novelty or inventive step	A	Document indicating technological background and/or state of the art.
Y	Document indicating lack of inventive step if combined with one or more other documents of same category.	P	Document published on or after the declared priority date but before the filing date of this invention.
&	Member of the same patent family	E	Patent document published on or after, but with priority date earlier than, the filing date of this application.



Applicati n No: GB 0004282.0
Claims searched: 6

Examiner: Peter Mason
Date of search: 15 January 2001

Patents Act 1977
Further Search Report under Section 17

Databases searched:

UK Patent Office collections, including GB, EP, WO & US patent specifications, in:
UK Cl (Ed.S): E1F: FLA, FAC, FJR, FJP
Int Cl (Ed.7): E21B:
Other: Online: JAPIO, EPODOC, WPI

Documents considered to be relevant:

Category	Identity of document and relevant passage		Relevant to claims
X,E	GB2344606 A	SHELL (See page 55, lines 9-16, page 57, lines 14-18 and fig. 11b)	6
X,E	GB2343691 A	SHELL (See claim-1)	6
Y	WO92/08875	FRAMO (See whole document)	6
Y	US5337808	GRAHAM (See 104 fig 2)	6

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Y	Document indicating lack of inventive step if combined with one or more other documents of same category.	P	Document published on or after the declared priority date but before the filing date of this invention.
&	Member of the same patent family	E	Patent document published on or after, but with priority date earlier than, the filing date of this application.



Application N : GB 0004282.0
Claims searched: 7

Examiner: Peter Mason
Date of search: 15 January 2001

Patents Act 1977
Further Search Report under Section 17

Databases searched:

UK Patent Office collections, including GB, EP, WO & US patent specifications, in:

UK CI (Ed.S): E1F: FLA, FAC, FIR

Int CI (Ed.7): E21B:

Other: Online: JAPIO, EPODOC, WPI

Documents considered to be relevant:

Category	Identity of document and relevant passage	Relevant to claims
X,E	GB2346632 A PETROLINE (See especially figs. 3 & 4)	7
X,E	GB2344606 A SHELL (See page 3, lines 6-12)	7

X	Document indicating lack of novelty or inventive step	A	Document indicating technological background and/or state of the art.
Y	Document indicating lack of inventive step if combined with one or more other documents of same category.	P	Document published on or after the declared priority date but before the filing date of this invention.
&	Member of the same patent family	E	Patent document published on or after, but with priority date earlier than, the filing date of this application.